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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/734,365

12/11/2003

Jukka Salonen

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BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

SALIARD, SHANNON.S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3628

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

01/04/2007

ELECTRONIC

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/734,365	Applicant(s) SALONEN, JUKKA	
	Examiner Shannon S. Saliard	Art Unit 3628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f):
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. **Claims 2 and 11** are objected to because of the following informalities:

As per **claims 2 and 11**, the acronym "SMS" is recited in the claim limitation. It is suggested that the applicant use the official name on the first reference, so that the meaning will be clear. If the applicant intends to use the acronym later in the in the claims, let readers know this by setting it off in parentheses directly after the first reference. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. **Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 8, 14, and 17** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per **claims 1 and 11**, the limitation "evaluate the reply using the client identifier address and the address at which the reply is received" as recited is vague and indefinite. It is unclear to the Office how a reply is evaluated by using a client identifier and particular reply address. Also, the claim does not positively recite the function of the "logic and resources". The claim language "adapted to" and "capable of"

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merely states the intended result of the process. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art. Also, the recitation of "the mediator is capable of receiving communications" is vague and indefinite. Appropriate correction is required.

As per **claims 3 and 14**, the limitation "analyze a semantics of the reply" as recited is vague and indefinite. It is unclear to the Office what the applicant is attempting to evaluate.

As per **claim 4**, the claim does not positively recite the function of the "logic and resources". The claim language "adapted to" merely states the intended result of the process. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art. Appropriate correction is required.

As per **claim 5**, the claim does not positively recite the function of the "logic and resources". The claim language "adapted to" merely states the intended result of the process. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art. Also, the claim recitation "if the at least one message includes a plurality of messages...are adapted to select a different particular reply address" as recited is conditional. It is unclear to the Office what happens if the at least one message does not include a plurality of messages. Appropriate correction is required.

As per **claims 7 and 17**, the limitation "can be" as recited is vague and indefinite. The limitation does not positively recite whether or not "answering by making a selection

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of one item from an ordered list of choices" is intended to limit the claim. Also, the limitation "ordinal position" as recited is vague and indefinite. It is unclear to the Office what the applicant is attempting to set forth. Appropriate correction is required.

As per **claim 8**, the claim does not positively recite the function of the "third axis". The claim language "for" merely states the intended result of the process. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art. Also, the limitation "ordinal position" as recited is vague and indefinite. It is unclear to the Office what the applicant is attempting to set forth. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1-6, 10-14, 19, and 20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wills [US 2002/0191795].

As per **claims 1 and 11**, Wills discloses a mediator that controls communications between a plurality of service providers and a plurality of client terminal devices each client using a client terminal with a client identifier address, the mediator including: (a) a multiplicity of addresses at which the mediator is capable of receiving communications from the client terminal [0004; 0026]; and (b) logic and resources adapted to identify

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inquires responsive to service request, each service request being associated with a client identifier address, prepare messages pertaining to the inquiries, including at least one message pertaining to each inquiry, associate a particular reply address to each message, the particular reply address being selected from the multiplicity of addresses, send each message to the client terminal, having the client identifier address of the service request to which it pertains, receive replies to messages at the multiplicity of addresses, each reply including a client identifier address, and evaluate replies using the client identifier address and the address at which the reply was received [0025-0029]. Wills fails to explicitly disclose store information pertaining to the replies in a matrix, the matrix including a first axis indexed by client identifier address and a second axis indexed by reply address. However, Wills discloses that the client identifier and the reply address provided in prior pull requests are reused by the service initiator [0029]. Thus, suggesting that the information is stored in a matrix or database of the service initiator. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Wills to include storing a client identifier on a first axis of a matrix and storing the reply address on the second axis of the matrix to facilitate retrieval of associated information.

As per **claims 2 and 12**, Wills further discloses wherein the logic and resources to prepare a message includes logic and resources to prepare a SMS message [0007].

As per **claims 3 and 14**, Wills further discloses wherein the logic and resources to evaluate the reply further includes logic and resources to analyze a semantics of the reply [0007; 0027].

As per **claims 4, 13 and 19**, Wills does not explicitly disclose wherein the logic and resources includes logic and resources adapted to track those addresses of the multiplicity of different addresses that are currently available and to assign the particular reply addresses at random from those addresses that are currently available. However, Wills discloses that a multiplicity of addresses are available for reply and that the client request is sent to the address based on the cryptographic key of the target server [0026]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Wills to include randomly assigning reply addresses from the currently available addresses for enhanced security to prevent anyone from easily identifying the source of the reply address and sending unsolicited responses.

As per **claim 5 and 6**, Wills discloses all the limitations of claims 11 and 20. Wills further discloses wherein the logic and resources adapted to associate a particular reply address to the at least one message [0025]. Wills does not explicitly disclose that the particular address is selected at random from those addresses, which are currently available. And whereby replies can be evaluated even of the replies are received out of sequence with the messages. However, Wills discloses that multiple requests are sent from a client to a mediator and that each request contains its own unique identifier [0026; see Fig 3]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Wills to include a plurality of messages in the one message that is identified by the particular reply address, since for each message that is created in Wills' disclosure includes an address identifier

associated with each message [see Fig. 2A, 2B, 3]. Wills suggests that identifying the originator of the message with an address identifier allows the originator to receive only solicited responses [0024], and allows the mediator to tailor responses to the request of the identified client [0007].

As per **claims 10 and 20**, Wills further discloses wherein the client identifier address includes an identifier chosen from the group consisting of a client's A-subscriber's number, Calling Line Identity, e-mail address and IP address [0030].

5. **Claims 7 and 17** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wills [US 2002/0191795] in view of Shah et al [US 2002/0032589].

As per **claims 7 and 17**, Wills discloses all the limitations of claims 11, 16, and 20. Wills does not disclose wherein the at least one message is a question which can be answered by making a selection of one item from an ordered list of choices wherein each choice has an ordinal position. However, Shah discloses a method of communication between a client and a server in which reply is made by choosing a selection from an ordered list that has an ordinal position [0059; see Figures 9, 12, and 14]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Wills to include the system disclosed by Shah so that the service provider can easily evaluate the selections made by the client instead of having to decipher non-predetermined responses (i.e., manually typed text responses).

6. **Claims 8 and 9** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wills [US 2002/0191795] in view of Shah et al [US 2002/0032589] as applied to claims 18 and 25 above, and further in view of Perez [U.S. Patent No. 5,592,666].

As per **claims 8 and 9**, Wills does not disclose a matrix for storing information wherein the matrix further includes a third axis index for storing the ordinal position of a selection and wherein the method further includes storing the selection to along the third axis. However, Perez discloses a matrix that includes a third axis index for storing the ordinal position of a selection and the selection along the third axis [col 2, lines 16-44; col 8, lines 13-49]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Wills to include the method disclosed by Perez. Perez provides the motivation that a matrix with a third axis allows large amounts of data to be stored in the database and uniquely identified in relation to the elements for each dimension [col 1, lines 51-58].

7. **Claims 15 and 16** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wills [US 2002/0191795] in view of Zalewski et al [US 2005/0085226].

As per **claims 15 and 16**, Wills does not disclose further including booking a reservation involving a plurality of booking services to fulfill a service request. However, Zalewski discloses using a SMS messaging address to fulfill a service request that includes reserving a service [0085; 0094]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Wills

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to include including booking a reservation involving a plurality of booking services to fulfill a service request so that a user has access to a service from any remote location.

8. **Claims 18 and 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wills [US 2002/0191795] in view of Zalewski et al [US 2005/0085226] as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of Perez [U.S. Patent No. 5,592,666].

Wills does not disclose a matrix for storing information wherein the matrix further includes a third axis index for storing the ordinal position of a selection and wherein the method further includes storing the selection to along the third axis. However, Perez discloses a matrix that includes a third axis index for storing the ordinal position of a selection and the selection along the third axis [col 2, lines 16-44; col 8, lines 13-49]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Wills to include the method disclosed by Perez. Perez provides the motivation that a matrix with a third axis allows large amounts of data to be stored in the database and uniquely identified in relation to the elements for each dimension [col 1, lines 51-58].

As per **claim 21**, Wills further discloses wherein the client terminal device is a mobile telephonic device and the messages include SMS messages [0007].

Conclusion

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant.

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Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that the applicant, in preparing the responses, fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shannon S. Saliard whose telephone number is 571-272-5587. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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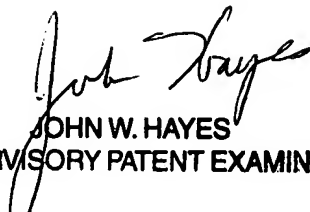
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Shannon S Saliard
Examiner
Art Unit 3628

SSS


JOHN W. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER